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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/075,150

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Harri Pekonen

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EXAMINER

PHILPOTT, JUSTIN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2665

20

DATE MAILED: 08/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/075,150

Applicant(s)

PEKONEN, HARRI

Examiner

Justin M Philpott

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 16.18.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 11-15, filed May 24, 2004, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-51 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive in view of the amendments to the claims. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new grounds of rejection is made in view of Veschi et al.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-7, 14, 20, 24, 25, 30-32, 34, 38, 39, 43, 44 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,923,655 to Veschi et al.

Regarding claims 1, 14, 24, 30, 38 and 43, Veschi teaches a time-slicing digital video broadcasting transmitter system comprising: a buffer (e.g., queue of packets in Ethernet controller, see col. 10, lines 31-36) that receives at least one of digital video content and digital audio content from an information service provider (e.g., server 160, see col. 9, lines 35-39); and encapsulator (e.g., packet assembly circuit within processor 210) that receives the buffered content from the buffer and that forms at least one packet header (e.g., header 310) for a current packet of a current burst of packets (e.g., see col. 10, lines 27-36 regarding packet assembly

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circuit), wherein the current packet contains a first portion of the buffered content (e.g., see col. 13, lines 34-42 regarding sample 380), wherein the at least one packet header contains time-slice information (e.g., position identifier 370) that includes a time-slice parameter specifying a relationship between the current packet of the current burst of packets (e.g., audio video sample 380, one of samples 1-5 in FIG. 5) and a subsequent burst of packets that contains a second portion of the buffered content (e.g., one of other samples, see col. 13, lines 42-44 and col. 14, lines 9-19); and a digital video broadcast transmitter (e.g., Ethernet controller 206) that transmits the current burst of packets and the subsequent burst of packets (e.g., see col. 9, lines 56-63).

Further, regarding claims 14, 24 and 38, Veschi teaches a corresponding receiver to the above-mentioned digital video broadcasting transmitter system, comprising a buffer (e.g., receiving buffer 510) and an application processor (e.g., packet disassembly circuit) for extracting information specifying a relationship between the current packet of the current burst of packets and the subsequent burst of packets (e.g., see col. 16, lines 12-30).

Regarding claims 2, 20, 25, 31, 39, 44 and 48, Veschi teaches the time-slice information specifies, in a way that is independent of a number of data packet-transmission intervals, an amount of time that elapses between transmission of the current packet and transmission of a first-transmitted packet of the subsequent burst of packets (e.g., see FIG. 5 regarding particular time intervals and see Table 1 in col. 14 regarding length of time in ms corresponding to position identifiers; see also col. 13, line 33 – col. 16, line 55).

Regarding claims 3 and 34, Veschi teaches the time-slice information (e.g., position identifier 370) specifies a time-slice duration for transmitting the current burst of packets (e.g.,

see Table 1 in col. 14 regarding duration/length of time in ms in combination with packet delay in ms).

Regarding claims 4 and 32, Veschi teaches the time-slice information includes a time-slice index for numbering originally transmitted bursts of packets (e.g., see Table 1 in col. 14 regarding position identifier).

Regarding claim 5, the buffer of Veschi is inherently large enough to store at least two full bursts of data from the information service provider and any data to be transmitted between transmission of the two full bursts of data (e.g., see col. 10, lines 32-36 regarding queuing data packets having position identifiers).

Regarding claim 6, Veschi teaches the amount of time that elapses between transmitting the current packet and transmitting the first-transmitted packet of the subsequent burst is determined based at least in part upon how many packets will be transmitted between transmitting the current packet and transmitting the subsequent packet (e.g., see Table 1 in col. 14 regarding times in ms, sample number, and position identifier).

Regarding claim 7, Veschi teaches the amount of time that elapses between transmitting the current packet and transmitting the first-transmitted packet of the subsequent burst is determined based at least in part upon an amount of transmitter-idle time between transmission bursts (e.g., see Table 1 in col. 14 regarding delay of each packet in ms).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 9, 11, 19, 21, 23, 26, 27, 29, 33, 35, 37, 40, 42, 45, 47, 49 and 51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Veschi.

Regarding claims 9, 19, 21, 26, 27, 33, 35, 40, 45 and 49, while Veschi may not specifically disclose the encapsulator places the time-slice information (e.g., position identifier 370) into lower layer protocol packet header bits, Veschi rather discloses the time-slice information is provided within message 330 (e.g., see FIG. 3). However, it is generally considered to be within the ordinary skill in the art to shift the location of parts absent a showing of unexpected results. Thus, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to shift the location of the position identifier 370 from message portion 330 to header portion 310 (see FIG. 3) since it is generally considered to be within the ordinary skill in the art to shift the location of parts absent a showing of unexpected results. The contention of obvious choice in design can be overcome if Applicant establishes unexpected results. In re Japikse, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950).

Regarding claims 11, 23, 29, 37, 42, 47 and 51, while Veschi may not specifically disclose time-slice information (e.g., position identifier 370) is placed into at least one byte reserved but not used for media access control addressing, Veschi suggests such a feature by providing reserved/length field 340 comprising at least one reserved byte for media access control addressing (e.g., see col. 11, line 1 – col. 12, line 30). Furthermore, while Veschi may not specifically disclose the position identifier is placed in the reserved field 340, it is generally considered to be within the ordinary skill in the art to shift the location of parts absent a showing

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of unexpected results. Thus, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to shift the location of the position identifier from field 370 to field 340 since it is generally considered to be within the ordinary skill in the art to shift the location of parts absent a showing of unexpected results. The contention of obvious choice in design can be overcome if Applicant establishes unexpected results. In re Japikse, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950).

Regarding claims 19, 26 and 33, while Veschi may not specifically disclose including an indication of whether the burst of packets is an original burst or a copy burst, Examiner takes official notice that it is well known in the art of packet communications to transmit copy bursts and include indications of whether a burst is an original or a copy.

6. Claims 8, 10, 12, 13, 15-18, 22, 28, 36, 41, 46 and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Veschi in view of applicant's admitted prior art.

Regarding claims 8, 10, 12, 13, 15-18, 22, 28, 36, 41, 46 and 50, these claims were rejected in the previous office action by the Examiner taking official notice that the limitations recited in these claims are well known in the art. In Applicant's response to the previous office action, Applicant has not traversed the Examiner's assertion of official notice or Applicant's traverse is not adequate. Therefore, in accordance with MPEP 2144.03(C), the limitations recited in these claims comprise well-known art and are hereafter taken to be admitted prior art.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent No. 5,537,409 to Moriyama et al. discloses a synchronization system for time-divided video and audio signals.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin M Philpott whose telephone number is 703.305.7357. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy D Vu can be reached on 703.308.6602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Justin M Philpott



ALPUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER